REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1, 4-6, and 9-10, canceled claims 2-3, 7-8 and 12, and added new claims 14-17. Claim 11 is the original claim and claim 13 was previously added. The claims following this amendment are 1, 4-6, 9-11 and 13-17.

SPECIFICATION

Applicant has amended the abstract to delete the objected to word "means."

MULTIPLE DEPENDENCY

The Examiner objected to claims 6-7 and 9-11 as being in improper form regarding multiple dependencies. Applicant believes any improper multiple dependencies were deleted in the preliminary amendment filed with this application. Therefore, the complete list of claims filed herewith is believed to be in proper form.

§ 112 REJECTION

Claim 6 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for "relative movement."

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claims 1-7 and 9-11 were rejected under § 102(a), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,682,918 to Palm.

Claim 8 was rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over Palm '918 in view of U.S. Patent 4,892,013 to Satoh.

Applicant believes the present claims patentably distinguish over the cited references for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of prior claim 8, which further distinguishes the claimed invention from Palm '918. Palm '918 does not describe a

power tool capable of operating in slow and fast speeds, and having a selector operable to cause the power tool to operate in a working or adjustment mode, the selector causing the power tool to operate at a slow speed when in the adjustment mode.

Nor is the subject matter of prior claim 8 (now claim 1) obvious in light of the combination of Palm '918 and Satoh '013. Satoh '013 describes a power tool with a gear train being operable in high and low speeds. Switching between high and low speeds is achieved by turning the adjusting knob 46, presumably about the longitudinal axis of the output shaft 23. This moves shafts 44 and 47 in the direction of the longitudinal axis to enhance and weaken the biasing force of springs 32 on brake disk 31. Referring to column 6 lines 18 to 32, Satoh '013 discloses that moving the shafts to the left of Figure 11 causes the gear train to operate at a high speed. Conversely moving the shafts 44 and 47 to the right cases the gear train to operate at a low speed.

Palm '918 describes being operable in an adjustment mode by moving collar 40 axially to the left. Accordingly, if one were to attach the chuck head of Palm '918 onto the gear train of Satoh '013, the combined power tool would operate at high speed when in the adjustment mode.

In order for the combined (hypothetical) Palm/Satoh power tool to function in accordance with the claimed invention would require substantial modification of the Palm and Satoh tools, and that modification would require a person of ordinary skill in the art to exercise inventive faculties. Accordingly the claimed invention should be considered non-obvious in light of the combination of Palm and Satoh.

Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that the present claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicant submits herewith a supplementary Information Disclosure Statement, with a copy of a supplementary European Search Report marked as completed on August 17, 2004, in corresponding European Application EP02715979, along with copies of the references noted therein. Applicant requests that the Examiner consider and make these references of record in this case.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated:

By: 
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